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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/172,261	10/14/1998	HIROHIKO ITO	35.G2265	9043

5514 7590 08/13/2003

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EXAMINER	
WORKU, NEGUSSIE	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2626	16

DATE MAILED: 08/13/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/172,261	ITO, HIROHIKO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Negussie Worku	2626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *12 May 2003* .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-21* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-21* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

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Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 7 and 13, have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. This office action is non-final.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-21, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Farrell (USP 5,452,068).

With respect to claim 1, Farrell discloses an image input and output method (as shown in fig 2, platen 20 and CCD 24, as input means printer 8 of fig 2 as output means) in which image data is input from at least one image input section, and the input image data is output to at least one image output section, see (col.7, lines 35-40, and col.9, lines 15-40), said method comprising the steps of: dividing image processing of one image processing unit (printer 2 of fig 1, divided into image input and output section as shown in fig 2, see col.7, lines 20-25) to be performed into an image input job in which image data is input from the image input section and an image

output job in which image data is output to the image output section, see (col.7, lines 20-25); managing execution of the image input job and execution of the image output job independently see (col.7, lines 20-25); and after a preceding image input job is finished, starting a subsequent image input job before the image output job corresponding to the preceding image input job is finished, see (col.5, lines 60-69) wherein image data obtained by reading an original image and image data received from an external unit (NET 26 of fig 2), are input in the image input job (platen 20 and CCD 24 of fig 2).

With respect to claim 2, Farrell discloses an image input and output (as shown in fig 2), method wherein image data is input and stored in an image storage section (56 of fig 2) for the image input job, (CCD of fig 2) and image data is read from the image storage section (55 of fig 2) and output in the image output job.

With respect to claim 3, Farrell discloses an image input and output method (as shown in fig 2), wherein the image data obtained by reading the original image, original on the platen 20 of fig 2), image data developed from code data expressing an image, and the image data received from the external unit (NER 26 of fig 2) are input in the image input job.

With respect to claim 4, Farrell discloses an image input and output method (as shown in fig 2), wherein image data is output to at least one of a printer section (printer 8 of fig 2) printing an image and a transmission section (60 of fig 2) transmitting an image in the image output job (printer 8 of fig 2).

With respect to claim 5, Farrell discloses an image input and output (as shown in fig 1-3), method, further comprising the step of creating a plurality of management tables, which hold information used for managing the image input job and the image output job.

With respect to claim 6, Farrell discloses an image input and output method (as shown in fig 1-3) wherein the execution of the image input job and that of the image output job are independently controlled, see (col.7, lines 20-25) in said controlling step according to the information held in the plurality of management tables, see (table 9 and 10 of fig 9).

With respect to claim 7, Farrell discloses an image input and output apparatus (as shown in fig 1-3), comprising: input means (20 and 24 of fig 2, as input means), for inputting image data from at least one image input section, see (col.7, lines 35-40); output means (printer 8 of fig 2, see col.9, lines 30-35), for outputting image data to at least one image output section (8 of fig 2); obtaining means (processor 25 of fig 2) for obtaining image processing parameters, see (col.9,

lines 32-34), which regulate image processing of one image processing unit (25 of fig 2) to be performed; and controlling means (controller 7 of fig 2), for controlling an input of image data and an output of image data according to the image processing parameter obtained by said obtaining means, (25 of fig 2) wherein said controlling means (controller 7 of fig 20: divides the image processing of said one image processing unit (25 of fig 2) expressed by the image processing parameters obtained by said obtaining means into an image input job in which image data is input by said image input means (scanner or CCD 24 and platen 20 of fig 1 or 4), as shown in fig 4), and an image output job (printer 8 of fig 2) in which image data is output by said output means (printer 8 of fig 2) manages execution of the image input job and execution of the image output job independently, see (col.7, lines 20-25); and after a preceding image input job is finished, starts a subsequent image input job before the image output job corresponding to the preceding image input job is finished, see (col.7, lines 20-25), wherein image data obtained by reading an original image and image data received from an external unit (net 26 of fig 2) are input by said input means (scanner or CCD 24 of fig 2) in the image input job.

With respect to claim 8, Farrell discloses an image input and output apparatus (as shown in fig 1-2) according, further comprising storage means (56 of fig 2) for storing image data, wherein the image data input by said input means (scanner or CCD 24 and platen 20 of fig 2), is stored in said image storage means (56 of fig 2) in the image input job, and the image data read

from said image storage means (56 of fig 2) is output by said output means in the image output job.

With respect to claim 9, Farrell discloses an image input and output apparatus (as shown in fig 1-2), wherein the image data obtained by reading the original image, (image obtained by reader CCD 24 of fig 2), image data developed from code data expressing an image, (original positioned on platen 20 of fig 4) and the image data received from the external unit (NET 26 of fig 2) are input by said input means (CCD 24 and platen 20 of fig 2) in the image input job.

With respect to claim 10, Farrell discloses an image input and output apparatus (as shown in fig 2), wherein image data is output by said output means (printer 8 of fig 2) to at least one of a printer section printing an image and a transmission section (20 of fig 2) transmitting an image.

With respect to claim 11, Farrell discloses an image input and output apparatus (as shown in fig 2), wherein said controlling means (controller 7 of fig 2) comprises a plurality of management tables,(tables as shown in fig 8) which hold information used for managing the image input job (scanner 24 of fig 2) and the image output job (printer 8 of fig 2).

With respect to claim 12, Farrell discloses an image input and output apparatus (as shown in fig 8), wherein said controlling means (controller 7 of fig 1) independently controls the

execution of the image input job and that of the image output job see (col.7, lines 20-25) according to the information held in the plurality of management tables (tables shown in fig 8).

With respect to claim 13, Farrell discloses an image processing system (as shown in fig 8) in which image data input by at least one image input means (scanner or CCD 24 of fig 2), is output by at least one image output means (printer 8 of fig 2) comprising: obtaining means (computer 50 of fig), for obtaining image processing parameters, see (col.7, lines 20-25), which regulate processing of one image processing unit (25 of fig 2) to be performed; and controlling means (controller 7 of fig 2) for controlling an input of image data and output of image data according to the image processing parameters obtained by said obtaining means, see (col.7, lines 20-25), wherein said controlling means (controller 7 of fig 2), divides the image processing of said one image processing unit (25 of fig 2) expressed by said image processing parameters obtained by said obtaining means (computer 51 of fig 2) into an image input job in which image data is input by the image input means (CCD 24 of fig 2) and an image output job in which image data is output by said output means (printer 8 of fig 2) ; manages execution of the image input job and execution of the image output job independently, see (col.7, lines 20-25); and after a preceding image input job is finished, starts a subsequent image input job before the image output job corresponding to the preceding image input job is finished, see (col.7, lines 20-25)

wherein said image input means inputs image data obtained by reading an original image and image data received from an external unit (NET 26 of fig 2).

With respect to claim 14, Farrell discloses an image processing system (as shown in fig 2), further comprising storage means (56 of fig 2), for storing image data, wherein the image data input by said input means (CCD 24 of fig 2) is stored in said image storage means (56 of fig 2) in the image input job, (printer 8 of fig 2) and the image data read from said image storage means (56 of fig 2) is output by said output means (printer 56 of fig 2) in the image output job.

With respect to claim 15, Farrell discloses an image processing system (as shown in fig 1-2), wherein said image input means inputs (CCD 24 of fig 2) the image data obtained by reading the original image, (platen 20 of fig 4) image data developed from code data expressing an image, and the image data received from the external unit (NET 26 of fig 2).

With respect to claim 16, Farrell discloses an image processing system (as shown in fig 2) wherein said image output means (printer 8 of fig 2) performs at least one of image printing according to image data and image-data transmission, see (col.7, lines 20-25)

With respect to claim 17, Farrell discloses an image processing system (as shown in fig 2), wherein said controlling means (controller 7 of fig 2), comprises a plurality of management tables, see (table fig 8 and 9) which hold information used for managing the image input job (20 and 24 of fig 2) and the image output job (printer of fig 2).

With respect to claim 18, Farrell discloses an image processing system (as shown in fig 2), wherein said controlling means (7 of fig 2) independently controls the execution of the image input job and that of the image output job, see (col.7, lines 20-25) according to the information held in the plurality of management tables, see (fig 8 and 9).

With respect to claim 19, Farrell discloses an image input and output method (as shown in fig 1 and 2), wherein said at least one input section (CCD and platen 20 of fig 2, input section) includes an interface section (25 of fig 2) for connecting to a computer (51 of fig 2) or a facsimile apparatus.

With respect to claim 20, Farrell discloses an image input and output apparatus (as shown in fig 2), wherein said at least one input section (CCD of fig 2), includes an interface section (25 of fig 2) for connecting to a computer (51 of fig 2) or a facsimile apparatus.

With respect to claim 21, Farrell discloses an image processing system (as shown in fig 2), wherein said at least one input means (CCD 24 of fig 2), includes an interface section for connecting to a computer (51 of fig 2), or a facsimile apparatus.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from Examiner should be directed to *Negussie Worku* whose telephone number is (703) 305 5441.

The Examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9 am - 6 pm if attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's Supervisor, ***Kimberly Williams,*** can be reached on *(703) 305-4863.*

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 306-5406, and any inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is *(703) 305-3900.*

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08/08/03